

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: MATT HUNTER
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: JULY 10, 2020

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA UTILITIES' APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER APPROVING A CHANGE IN NATURAL GAS RATES AND CHARGES (PGA); CASE NO. AVU-G-20-04

On June 30, 2020, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities filed its annual Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) Application, asking to *increase* its annual revenues by about \$0.4 million (0.7%). Application at 1.¹ The Company says its proposal will increase rates for an average residential or small commercial customer by \$0.31 per month (0.6%). *Id.* at 4. The Company states it will send a customer notice to each of its customers during the month of July. *Id.* at 2. The Company has issued a press release to interested media outlets. *Id.* The Company asks that its Application be processed by Modified Procedure, and that the new rates take effect November 1, 2020. *Id.* at 5.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the case be processed through Modified Procedure, with comments due by October 6, 2020 and reply comments due October 13, 2020. Additionally, Staff recommends the Commission set an intervention deadline for persons who wish to intervene as a party in this case. Staff recommends an August 7, 2020 intervention deadline.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to:

¹ The PGA mechanism is used to adjust rates to reflect annual changes in the Company's costs for the purchase of natural gas from suppliers – including transportation, storage, and other related costs.

1. Process this case through Modified Procedure, with comments due by October 6, 2020 and reply comments due October 13, 2020?
2. Require persons who wish to intervene in this case to file a Petition to Intervene by August 7, 2020?



Matt Hunter
Deputy Attorney General

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